Category	Housing shortage in Million as on 2007.
Economically Weaker Section (EWS)	21.78
Low Income Group (LIG)	2.89
Middle Income Group (MIG)	0.04
High Income Group (HIG)	
TOTAL:	24.71

(b) 'Land' and 'colonisation' being State subjects, it is primarily for the State Governments to provide for affordable houses for the people.

However, in order to address the issue of housing shortage, the first urban area specific housing policy titled the National Urban Housing & Habitat Policy (NUHHP), 2007 has been formulated which was laid on the Table of both Houses of the Parliament on 7.12.2007. The Policy seeks to set in motion a process for providing 'Affordable Housing for All' particularly for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and the Low Income Group (LIG) through various types of public-private partnerships.

Apart from NUHHP, 2007 the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) launched by the Government in the year 2005 caters to provision of housing and basic services to urban poor in 63 specified cities under the Sub-Mission Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) and in other the Sub-Mission Basic Services Integrated Housing & Slum Development Programme (IHSDP). Also a provision of Rs. 95 crores has been made in the current financial year 2008-09 to provide interest rate subsidy on housing loans to Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and the Low Income Group (LIG) under a new scheme.

(c) There is no proposal for putting a ceiling on the prices of LIG and MIG flats.

Employment guarantee scheme for BPL people in urban areas

3305. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to introduce any scheme for guaranteed employment to people living below poverty line in urban areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation is already implementing an employment-oriented Centrally sponsored scheme for urban poverty alleviation, named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), on all India basis, with effect from 1.12.1997. The scheme of SJSRY strives to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed and

underemployed poor through, firstly, encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures by those who have studied up to 9th standard and, secondly, by providing wage employment by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets.

New urban housing policy for green settlements

3306. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of New Urban Housing Policy for Green Settlements;

(b) the action plan of Government to fast promote this project in the backward regions of the country *i.e.* Orissa, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, etc.; and

(c) to what extent this would address the problems of drinking water, control migration from rural areas to cities, promote employment generation projects and maintain ecological balance, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The National Urban Housing and Habitat Policy (NUHHP), 2007 has been laid on the Table of both Houses of Parliament on 7.12.2007. The Policy emphasises on environment friendly habitat and has following salient features:—

(i) Development of green belts will be developed around cities with a view to maintaining the ecological balance.

(ii) Earmarking development of suitable green recreational areas like zoo, lakes and gardens for public visits in the Master Plan of each city/town.

(iii) Protection of water bodies with special emphasis on keeping the flood plains of tropical rivers free from construction or encroachments.

(iv) Ensure protection, through Master Plans of large depressions from being filled up since they are natural drainage points for conservation of water and can be developed as suitable water bodies.

(v) Encourages cities/towns to keep a significant proportion of the total Master Plan area as 'green lungs of the city'.

(vi) Encourages States/UTs to develop Sub-regional/Special Area Development Plans for areas with fragile ecological characteristics on the basis of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) so as to take care of all environmental concerns at the planning stage itself.

(vii) Provides encouragement to City planners to lay down norms for development of urban sprawls and satellite townships.

(viii) Encouragement for preparation of State/UT level Regional Plans based on fast transport corridors for balanced growth.

(ix) Development of Model to promote the use of renewable energy sources particularly solar water heating systems in residential and commercial buildings.